# LOW TEMPERATURE THERMAL DESORPTION (LTTD)

Foster Wheeler Environmental Corp.

#### LTTD - OVERVIEW

- What is Low Temperature Thermal Desorption?
- Applicability of LTTD Systems
- Overview of Various Types of LTTDs
- Design and Performance Characteristics
- Cost Information
- Example: Naval Station Mayport
- **Example: American Thermostat**

## WHAT IS LOW TEMPERATURE THERMAL DESORPTION?

## LTTD DEFINITION KEY POINTS

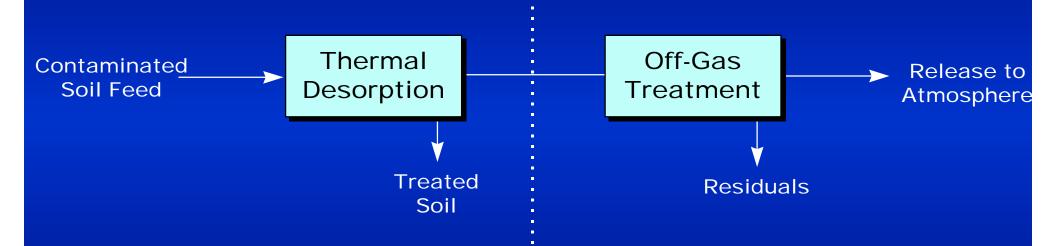
- Physical separation process
- Soils heated to 300° to 600°F
- Soil essentially retains its physical properties
- Volatize moisture and organics
- Not designed for inorganics removal/treatment
- Off-gas treated by condensation, collection, or combustion
- Extension of LTTD to treat higher boiling point organics by heating soils above 600°F, typically to 1,000°F (High Temperature Thermal Desorption)

## LTTD DEFINITION KEY POINTS

(CONTINUED)

- This definition is controversial evolving
- Off-gas treatment by combustion may be viewed as incineration
- Check with local state and federal regulators early in the project
- LTTD can be referred to by other names or acronyms such as Low Temperature Enhanced Volatilization or LTEV
- Has been recognized as a remedial technology by EPA for more than 10 years

#### **GENERIC LTTD PROCESS**



Step 1

Heat Soil to Volatize Organic Compounds Step 2

Condense, Collect, or Combust Vapor-Phase Organic Compounds

## APPLICABILITY OF LTTD SYSTEMS

#### **APPLICABILITY OF LTTD SYSTEMS**

- Petroleum, VOC, SVOC, pesticides and other organic contaminants with boiling points generally up to 600°F
- For organic contaminants with boiling points above 600°F (such as PCBs), consider High Temperature Thermal Desorption
- Thermal desorption is not applicable for treatment of inorganic wastes, such as metals
- Various residuals are generated such as particulate, spent carbon, wastewater, filters, combustion gas - which need to be disposed of or managed

## TYPICAL LTTD RESIDUALS FOR MANAGEMENT AND/OR DISPOSAL

- Clean offgas
- Spent carbon
- Concentrated contaminants
- Condensed water
- Treated wastewater
- Treated soil
- Non-contact furnace exhaust gas
- Filtration elements
- Catalyst

### APPLICABILITY OF LTTD SYSTEMS (CONTINUED)

- The presence of materials which tend to inhibit heat transfer by fouling or plugging should be considered relative to the LTTD system design
- Large solid masses of contaminated media, such as large boulders or material that clumps, may not be treatable due to lack of uniform heat transfer

## OVERVIEW OF VARIOUS TYPES OF LTTDs

#### SELECT LTTD TECHNOLOGIES

#### <u>Continuous</u>

(Ex Situ)

#### **Direct Fired**

- Rotary Dryer

#### **Indirect Fired**

- Rotary Dryer
- Thermal Screw Conveyor

#### **Batch**

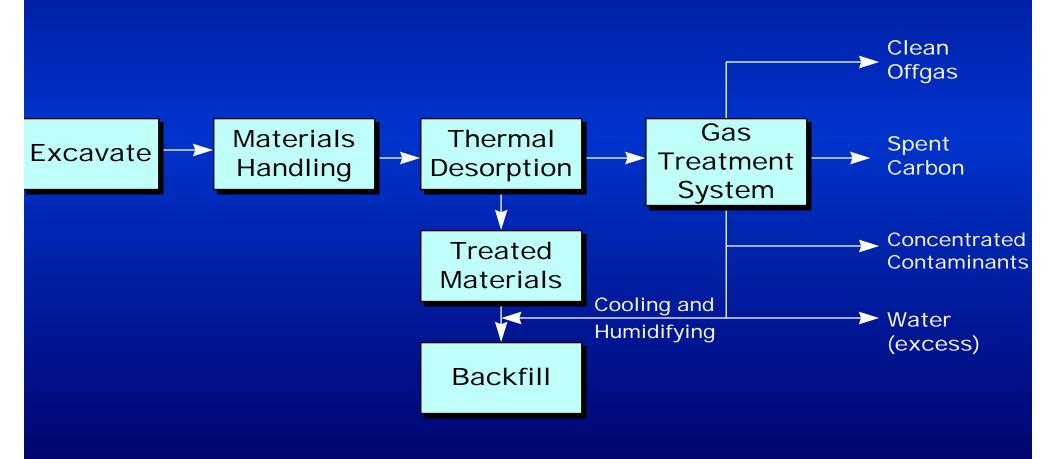
#### Ex Situ

- Heated Oven
- Hot Air Vapor Extraction (HAVE)

#### In Situ

- Thermal Blanket
- Thermal Well

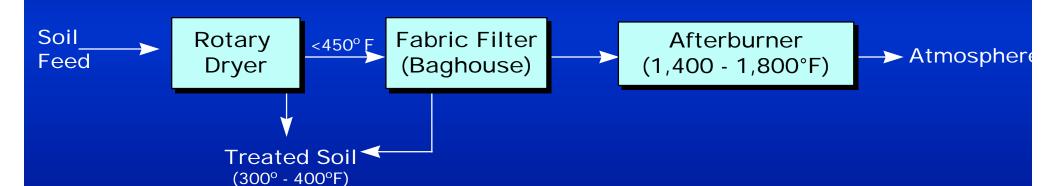
## GENERALIZED SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM OF EX SITU LTTD PROCESS



#### **DIRECT FIRED LTTD SYSTEMS**

#### **FIRST GENERATION**

for low boiling point, non-chlorinated contaminants



#### DIRECT FIRED LTTD (10 - 25 TONS PER HOUR)



Photo Courtesy of ThermoTech Systems Corp., Orlando, FL

#### DIRECT FIRED LTTD (40 - 100 TONS PER HOUR)

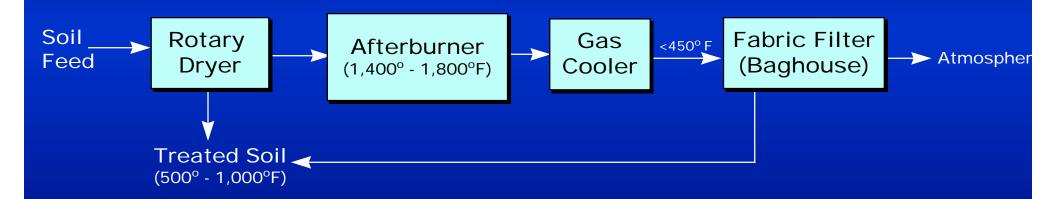


**Photo Courtesy of CMI Corporation, Oklahoma City, OK** 

#### **DIRECT FIRED LTTD SYSTEMS**

#### **SECOND GENERATION**

for higher boiling point, non-chlorinated contaminants



#### DIRECT FIRED LTTD (40 - 160 TONS PER HOUR)

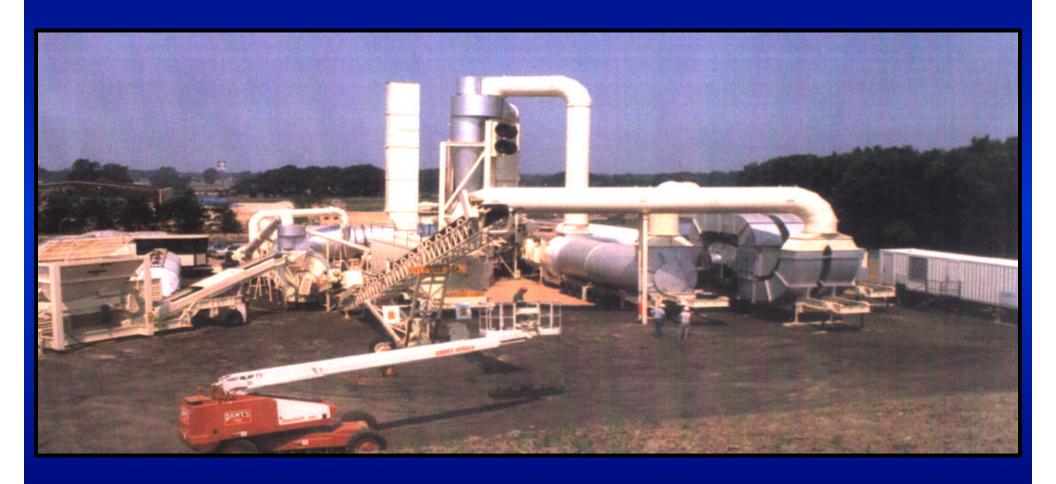
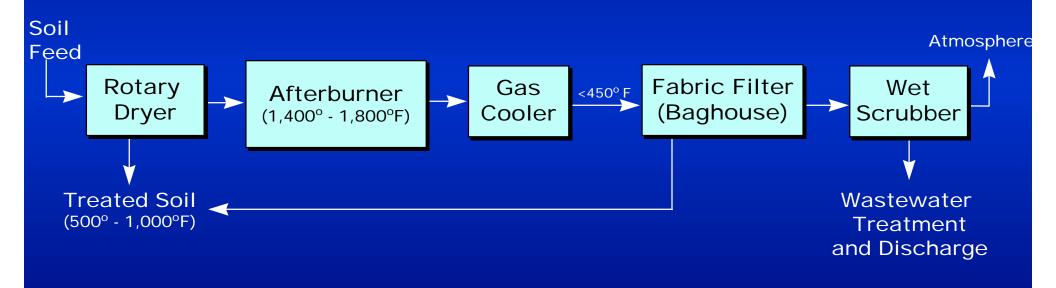


Photo Courtesy of CMI Corporation, Oklahoma City, OK

#### **DIRECT FIRED LTTD SYSTEMS**

#### THIRD GENERATION

for high boiling point, chlorinated contaminants



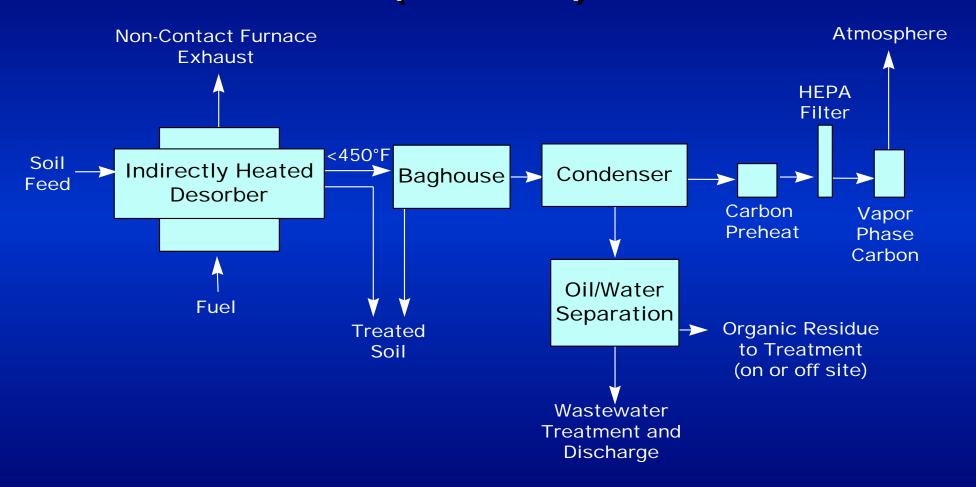
## AMERICAN THERMOSTAT SITE SOUTH CAIRO, NY



## AMERICAN THERMOSTAT SITE SOUTH CAIRO, NY



## INDIRECT FIRED LTTD SYSTEMS (TYPICAL)



#### **INDIRECT FIRED LTTD**



Photo Courtesy of Maxymillian Technologies, Pittsfield, MA

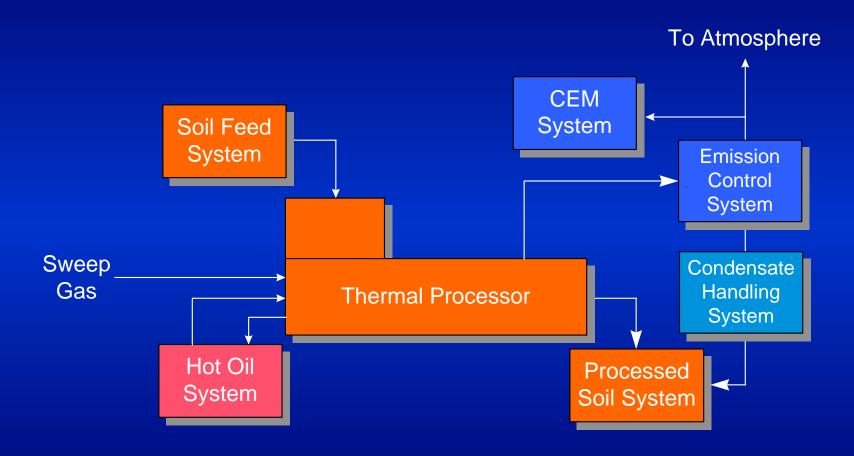
### BASE CATALYZED DECOMPOSITION PROCESS (BCDP) FOR PCB-CONTAMINATED SOIL REMEDIATION

**ON GUAM** 



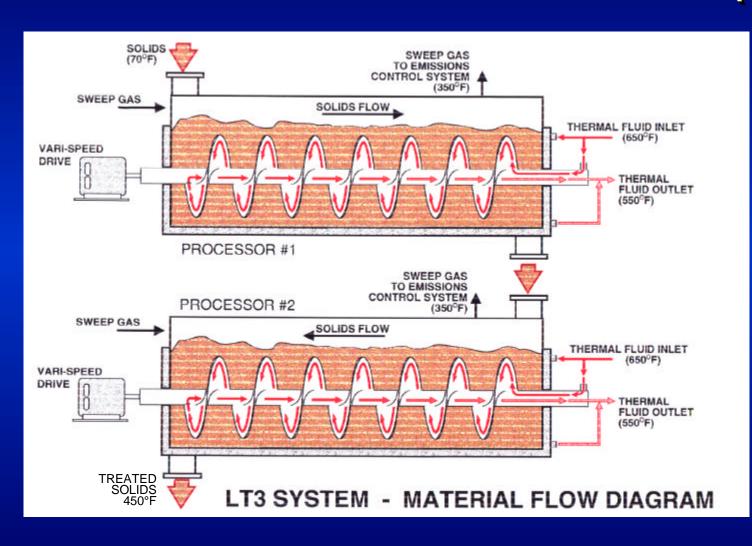


#### **INDIRECT FIRED THERMAL SCREW (TYPICAL)**



Courtesy of Roy F. Weston, West Chester, PA

#### INDIRECT FIRED THERMAL SCREW (TYPICAL)



**Counter Flow** 

Co-current Flow

Courtesy of Roy F. Weston, West Chester, PA

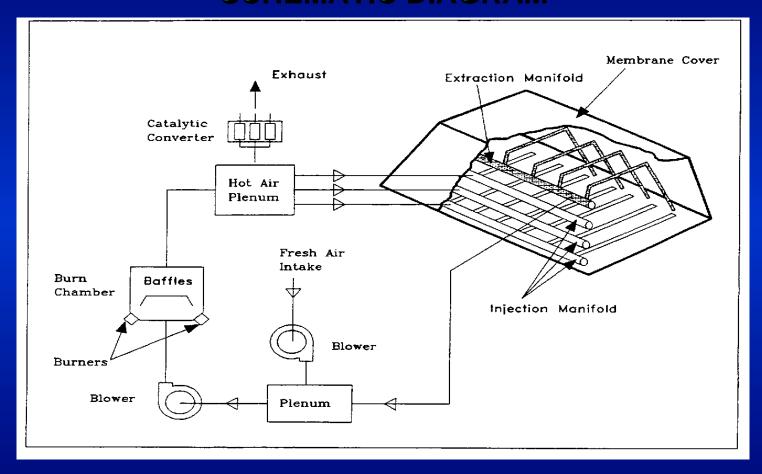
#### **INDIRECT FIRED THERMAL SCREW SYSTEM**



Courtesy of Roy F. Weston, West Chester, PA (scene from Naval Auxiliary Landing Field project at Crows Landing, CA)

#### **HOT AIR VAPOR EXTRACTION (HAVE) SYSTEM**

**SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM** 

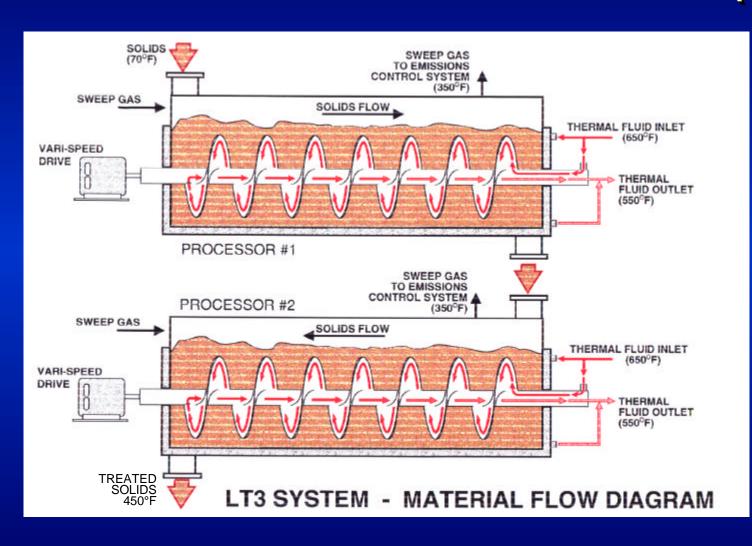


Source: Technical Report TR-2066-ENV Naval Facilities Engineering Service Center, Port Hueneme, CA

#### HAVE SYSTEM DEMONSTRATION FOR FUEL HYDROCARBON CLEANUP AT PORT HUENEME, CA



#### INDIRECT FIRED THERMAL SCREW (TYPICAL)



**Counter Flow** 

Co-current Flow

Courtesy of Roy F. Weston, West Chester, PA

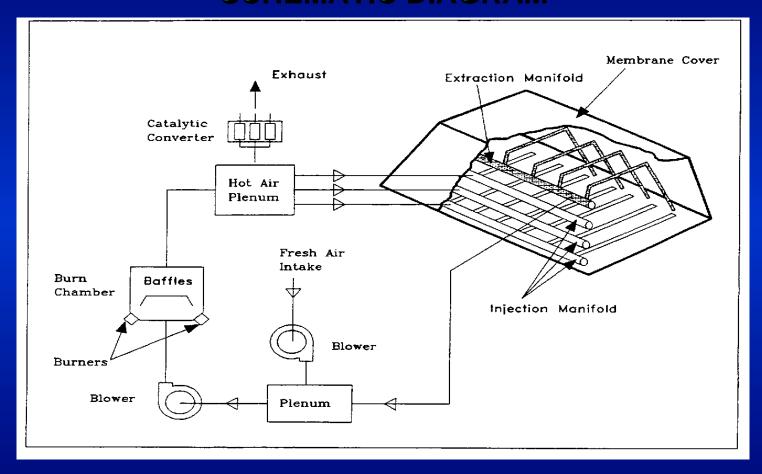
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**SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM** 



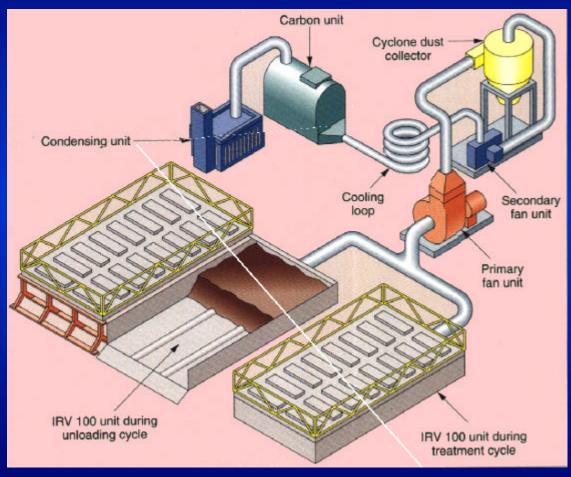
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#### HAVE SYSTEM DEMONSTRATION FOR FUEL HYDROCARBON CLEANUP AT PORT HUENEME, CA



#### **EX SITU BATCH LTTD SYSTEM**

#### **FIRST GENERATION**



Infrared heat, vacuum system IRV-100

Schematic Courtesy of McLaren Hart, Warren, NJ

#### **EX SITU BATCH LTTD SYSTEM**

**TERRACHEM IRV-100** 



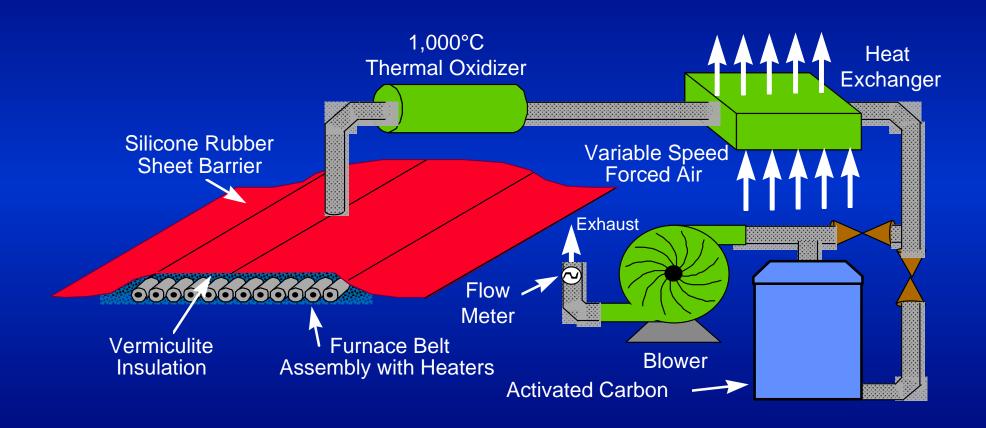
Photo Courtesy of McLaren Hart, Warren, NJ

## TERRACHEM IRHV-200 FCX SUPERFUND SITE



Photo Courtesy of McLaren Hart, Warren, NJ

## IN SITU LTTD SYSTEM THERMAL BLANKET SCHEMATIC



Schematic Courtesy of Terratherm Environmental Services, The Woodlands, TX

## A THERMAL BLANKET IS LOWERED ONTO A CONTAMINATED SITE.

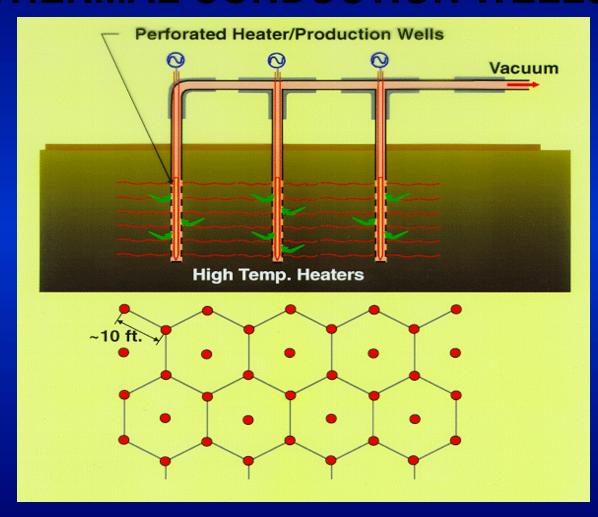




#### THERMAL BLANKET PILOT

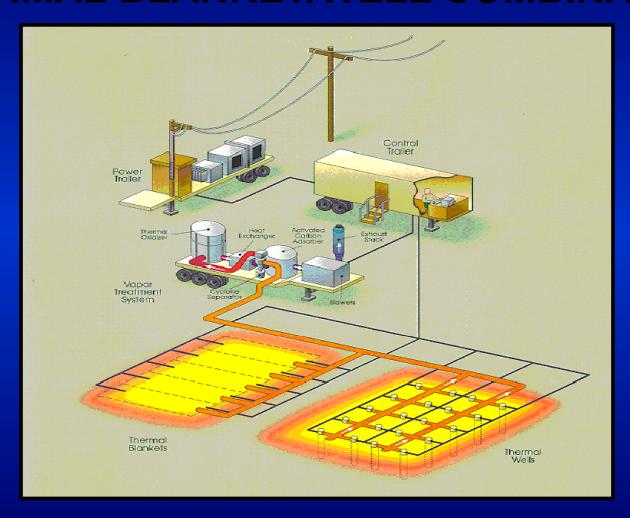


## IN SITU LTTD SYSTEM THERMAL CONDUCTION WELLS



Schematic Courtesy of Terratherm Environmental Services, The Woodlands, TX

## IN SITU LTTD SYSTEM THERMAL BLANKET/WELL COMBINATION



Schematic Courtesy of Terratherm Environmental Services, The Woodlands, TX

## IN SITU THERMAL DESORPTION THERMAL WELLS INSTALLATION



Photo Courtesy of Terratherm Environmental Services, The Woodlands, TX

## DESIGN AND PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

#### WASTE CHARACTERIZATION

- Soils are inherently variable in their physical and chemical characteristics
- Physical characteristics needed:
  - Soil particle size distribution
  - Composition (sand, clay, silts, rocks, etc.)
  - Bulk density
  - Permeability (water and/or air)
  - Plasticity (measures tendency to clump and stick)
  - Soil "in-place" homogeneity (impermeable layers etc.)

## WASTE CHARACTERIZATION (CONTINUED)

- Chemical characteristics needed:
  - Moisture Content
  - Heat Content
  - Contaminant Type, Concentration, and Distribution
  - Halogen Content
  - Metals Concentrations (Total and TCLP)
  - Alkali Salt Content

## DESIGN CHARACTERISTICS CONTINUOUS LTTD/HTTD TECHNOLOGIES

Item	Direct Fired Rotary Dryer	Indirect Fired Rotary Dryer	Indirect Fired Thermal Screw
Soil Feed Maximum Size	< 2 "	< 2 "	< 2 "
Heat Source	Direct Contact Combustion	Indirect Contact Combustion	Indirect Contact Hot Oil/Steam
Treated Soil Temperature Range	300° - 1,000°F	250° - 1,000°F	200° - 450°F
Feed Rate Achievable	20 to 160 tph	10 to 20 tph	5 to 10 tph
Mobilization Time Required	1 to 4 weeks depending on size	1 to 2 weeks	1 to 2 weeks
Layout Area Required (Thermal Treatment System Only)	Small: 75 ft. x 100 ft. Large: 150 ft. x 200 ft.	70 ft. x 80 ft.	50 ft. x 100 ft.

## DESIGN CHARACTERISTICS BATCH LTTD TECHNOLOGIES

	Ex Situ Heated Oven	HAVE System	Thermal Blanket	Thermal Well	
Soil Feed Maximum Size	< 2 "	NA	NA	NA	
Heat Source	Indirect Contact Combustion	Direct Contact Combustion	Electric Resistance Heater	Electric Resistance Heater	
Treat Soil Temperature Range	200° - 500°F (Note: Vacuum reduces boiling point effective up to approx. 750°F)	150° - 400°F	200° - 500°F (estimated average bulk temperature)	200° - 500°F (estimated average bulk temperature)	
Batch Size	One Chamber 5 - 20 cu. yds.	300 - 1,000 cu. yds. Optimum: 750 cu. yds.	One Module: 8 ft. x 20 ft.	NA	
Treatment Time	1 to 4 hrs. per batch	12-14 days	4 days	Unknown	
Mobilization Time Required	1 week	2 to 7 days	Not available	Not available	
Layout Area Required (Thermal Treatment System Only)	40 ft. x 100 ft. (4-unit setup)	40 ft. x 100 ft for 750 cu. yds.	Variable	Variable depending on number of wells	

#### PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

- Performance varies by type of unit, site characteristics, and contaminants
- In general, all units can meet regulatory criteria
- Batch systems take longer
- Direct fired systems generally provide significantly lower residual concentrations, usually below detectable levels

#### **COST INFORMATION**

#### **COST FACTORS TO CONSIDER**

- Project Planning
- Project Work Plans and Submittals
- Regulatory Issues and Permitting
- Site Layout, Preparation, Mobilization, and Demobilization
- System Start-up and Performance Testing
- Unit Treatment Cost for a Range of Quantities
- Contaminated Soil Excavation, Material Handling, Processing, and Backfill
- Sampling and Analysis (Excavation, Treated Soils, Air Monitoring, Water Discharge, etc.)
- Site Restoration

#### LTTD TECHNOLOGIES

TYPICAL COST INFORMATION FROM LITERATURE (treatment cost only)

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Small - Medium	\$40-\$200
Direct Fired	per ton
Rotary Dryer	

Large Direct	\$35-\$100
Fired	per ton
Rotary Dryer	

Indirect Fired	\$80-\$150
Rotary Dryer	per ton

Indirect Fired	\$100-\$150
Thermal Screw	per ton

▶ BCDP \$322 per ton

#### **Batch**

Heated Oven	\$120-\$250
	per ton

HAVE	\$48-\$51
	per ton
	(estimated)

Thermal roughlyBlanket/Well \$100 per ton

# EXAMPLE: NAVAL STATION MAYPORT JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

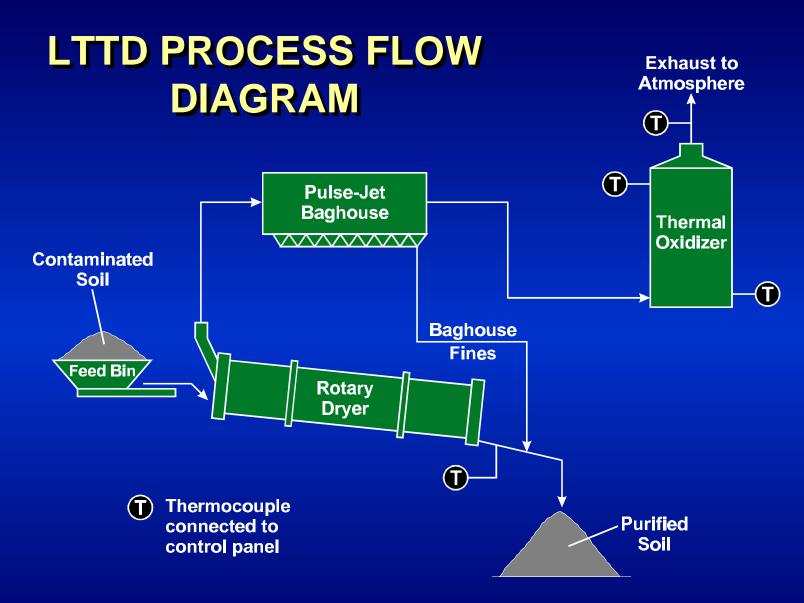
## NAVAL STATION MAYPORT SWMUs 6 & 7 - PROCESS

- Front-end loader feeds petroleum contaminated soil into 3-CY cold feed bin
- Conveyor transports contaminated soil into rotary dryer
- Rotary dryer 4' diameter by 20' long elevates soil temperature to 650°-700°F with residence time of 6-10 minutes - moisture and volatile organic compounds are volatilized
- ▶ High Temperature Baghouse removes soil fines and dust particles from dryer chamber exhaust gases
- Screw Auger mixes dust (collected from baghouse) with discharged from rotary dryer

## NAVAL STATION MAYPORT SWMUs 6 & 7 - PROCESS

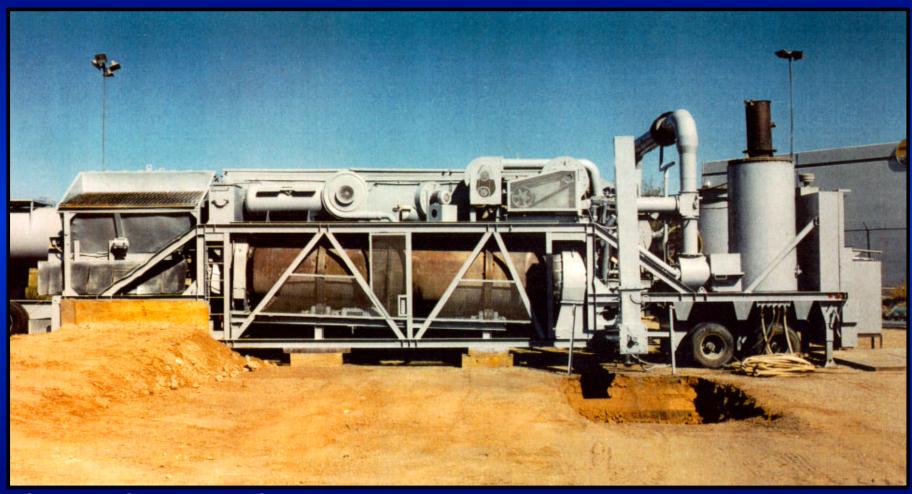
(CONTINUED)

- Soil rehydrated at discharge to minimize dust and prepare for use as backfill
- Thermal Oxidizer combusts volatile organic compounds from particle-free exhaust gases - minimum 1,500°F with minimum 1 second retention time
- ► Treated air emitted to atmosphere
- Soil input proposed at 8-12 tons per hour
- ► Treated 2,400 tons
- Cost \$198,000 including planning, excavating, treating, returning soil into place



Source: Southwest Soil Remediation, Inc.

#### LTTD EQUIPMENT - 4' PLANT



Source: Southwest Soil Remediation, Inc.

# EXAMPLE: AMERICAN THERMOSTAT SITE SOUTH CAIRO, NY

## AMERICAN THERMOSTAT SITE SOURCE CONTROL REMEDIATION QUANTITIES

Phase I - Approximately 13,000 CY\*

Phase II - Approximately 26,000 CY\*

<sup>\*</sup>Quantity Values Reflect the Payment Basis of In-Place Volume, in Cubic Yards (CY)

#### AMERICAN THERMOSTAT SITE SCOPE OF WORK

- Mobilization and Site Preparation
- Excavation and Shoring & Bracing of Sidewalls
- Waste Feed Preparation
- LTTD Processing of Approximately 13,000 CY (Phase I) and Approximately 26,000 CY (Phase II)
- Backfill of Treated Soils Onsite
- Provide and Operate Water Treatment System
- Demobilization and Site Restoration

### AMERICAN THERMOSTAT WASTE CHARACTERIZATION DATA

#### Contaminant

Range of Concentration (ppm)

#### **Organic Compounds**

Trichloroethene (TCE) N.D. to 1.1

Tetrachloroethene (PCE) N.D. to >10,000

Misc. Other Organic Compounds N.D. to 1.0

#### **Inorganic Compounds**

Lead (Pb) 95 to 119

Cadmium (Cd) 1.0 to 1.5

## SOURCE CONTROL REMEDIATION TRANSITION FROM PHASE I TO PHASE II

- Identification of up to 30,000 CY of additional soil to be treated
- Government consideration of validity of sole source procurement
- ▶ Solicitation of bid from existing (Phase I) LTTD subcontractor
- Negotiation and re-bids received from existing LTTD subcontractor

## SOURCE CONTROL REMEDIATION TRANSITION FROM PHASE I TO PHASE II (CONTINUED)

- Decision to solicit competitive proposals through advertised bidding process
- Best and final offers from competitive offerors
- Award of new LTTD subcontract for up to 30,000 CY of soil treatment

# AMERICAN THERMOSTAT SITE PHASE II SOIL REMEDIATION SOLE SOURCE ADD-ON VS. OPEN RE-PROCUREMENT

- Savings of about \$3.5 MM due to competitive re-bid
- Apparent delay of nearly 6 months in initial schedule due to re-procurement
- Phase II LTTD subcontractor processing rate more than double Phase I vendor. Therefore, no overall schedule delay was actually incurred.

### AMERICAN THERMOSTAT SITE SUMMARY OF LTTD SUBCONTRACT AWARDS

Phase I: 13,000 CY (20,800 tons)

= \$3.77 MM

Soil Treatment Cost (only)

= \$51.74/ton

Phase II: 30,000 CY (48,000 tons)

= \$6.54 MM

**Soil Treatment Cost (only)** 

= \$34.38/ton

## AMERICAN THERMOSTAT SITE COST INFORMATION (AS BID IN YEAR SHOWN)

#### Phase I (1992): 13,000 cubic yards (20,800 tons)

Bidders	Α	В	С	D	E	F	Average
Soil Treatment Cost (\$/ton)	\$51.74	\$68.13	\$81.36	\$38.75	\$91.56	\$42.50	\$62.34
Overall Cost (\$/ton)	\$181.25	\$234.23	\$210.96	\$214.98	\$323.49	\$228.17	\$232.16

#### Phase II (1995): 30,000 cubic yards (48,000 tons)

Bidders	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Average
Soil Treatment Cost (\$/ton)	\$52.54	\$43.66	\$67.44	\$33.04	\$62.50	\$34.38	\$36.25	\$75.34	\$22.81	\$47.55
Overall Cost (\$/ton)	\$199.85	\$158.20	\$230.29	151.29	\$261.82	\$136.25	\$154.61	\$225.63	\$172.77	\$187.80

### AMERICAN THERMOSTAT SITE COST INFORMATION

- Soil treatment cost is within range reported in literature
- In general, the larger the quantity to be treated, the lower the unit rate, provided LTTD system size is compatible with the quantity to be treated
- Overall cost includes Unit Rate plus the following other site costs:
  - Site Preparation, Mobilization, Demobilization, and Site Support Services
  - Health and Safety, Air Monitoring, Sampling and Analysis
  - Excavation, Shoring, Backfill
  - Treated Soil Stabilization
  - Site Restoration

#### **LESSONS LEARNED SUMMARY**

**AMERICAN THERMOSTAT SITE** 

### AMERICAN THERMOSTAT SITE LESSONS LEARNED SUMMARY

- ▶ Need full-time, on-site LTTD Project Manager
- Consider re-bid for significant quantity growth
- Specify pertinent regulatory parameters directly
- Material handling / waste feed preparation are key activities
- Excavation shoring and bracing and water removal also key activities
- Maintain adequate LTTD spare parts supply onsite

## AMERICAN THERMOSTAT SITE LESSONS LEARNED SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

- Ensure adequate, available make-up water source
- Use multiple treated residue bins
- Consider productivity impacts of severe weather
- Designate appropriate PPE requirements
- Specify key LTTD staffing needs carefully
- Request pricing breakout for optional items or for quantity underrun / overrun situations

#### **SUMMARY**

#### LOW TEMPERATURE THERMAL DESORPTION

#### MOST COMMON TECHNOLOGY ROTARY DRYER SYSTEM

- Versatile and proven technology
- Able to accept solids, liquids, and sediments
- Adaptable to changeable site conditions
- Generally reliable
- High rate, continuous feed throughput, beyond 100 tons/hr.
- Most prevalent, hence more competition from various vendors
- Some vendors have existing units that can alternately be used in high temperature thermal desorption or incineration applications
  - Regulatory track record more established than other technologies

#### LTTD VIDEO

Available from NFESC